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Jean Louis Legare.

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JEAN LOUIS LEGARE.

MAY 7, 1894.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. RICHARDS, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

ADVERSE REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 3690.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3690) for the relief of Jean Louis Legare, respectfully report as follows:

The claimant, Jean Louis Legare, asks \$13,412 for services and expenses incurred in bringing into the United States and procuring the surrender of Sitting Bull and his followers. His itemized bill is as follows:

1881, April 20, provisions, tobacco, and pipes furnished Sitting Bull and followers	\$350.00
Transportation and board for Indians, from Wood Mountain, Canada, to Fort Buford, Dak., 150 miles, at \$32 per Indian:	
1881, April 26, 16 Indians	512.00
1881, May 22, 32 Indians	1,024.00
1881, July 11, 200 Indians	6,400.00
Transportation and board for Indians from Fort Buford, Dak., to Wood Mountain, Canada, 150 miles, \$32 per Indian:	
1881, May 4, 4 Indians	128.00
1881, June 1, 3 Indians	96.00
1881, July 19, 1 Indian	32.00
Provisions furnished 12 lodges of Indians, about 50 or 60 persons, from April 26 to July 2, 1881	990.00
1881, July 2, provisions and tobacco furnished Sitting Bull and followers, 300 Indians	225.00
1881, July 3, 12 sacks of flour furnished Sitting Bull and 3 headmen, at \$12	144.00
1881, July 11, 1 revolver to Sitting Bull	15.00
1881, July 11, 1 looking-glass for Sitting Bull	25.00
1881, July 11, to one lodge	12.00
1882, April 12, board and clothing for 1 Indian, 9 months, at \$40	360.00
1882, April 20, 1 year's services	3,000.00
1882, April 22, 1 pony turned over to scout	45.00
Use of pony from August 25, 1881, to April 22, 1882	54.00
Total amount claimed	13,412.00

In 1881 and 1882 claimant was an Indian trader at Willow Branch, Wood Mountain, Canada, where he resided, and a part of Sitting Bull's force of Indians was encamped near him, becoming quite troublesome on account of their poverty. The United States endeavored to induce the Indians to return, which was also desired by the Canadian Government.

Claimant held interviews with Maj. Brotherton, of the Seventh U. S. Infantry, commander of the post at Fort Buford, N. Dak., regarding efforts upon the part of claimant to induce the Indians to return, but he himself testifies that Brotherton told him he had no authority to contract

on behalf of the United States to pay him. Yet he bases this claim upon an employment by Maj. Brotherton. Claimant, between May 1, 1881, and July 3, 1881, brought into Fort Buford 235 Indians and perhaps furnished some subsistence for them, but the testimony shows that the U. S. Government furnished large quantities of food for these same Indians while on their way to Fort Buford.

But claimant made a statement of his labors and expenditures in the premises and presented the same to the Canadian Government, which paid him in satisfaction thereof the sum of \$2,000.

From the fact that a number of the items of his bill are exorbitant; that, as shown by the testimony, he charges for food while it was furnished by the Government; that he has already been paid by the Canadian Government for his services, and that the testimony strongly tends to show that this claim was an afterthought, we are of opinion that it should not be paid and recommend that the bill do not pass.